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SIPDIS

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TAGS: [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [TU](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: TURKISH MFA READY TO START TALKS ON PKK/KADEK

REF: ANKARA 4787

(U) Classified by Charge d'Affaires Robert S. Deutsch.  
Reason: 1.5 (b,d)

1. (S) In a Aug. 1 meeting, MFA Deputy Undersecretaries Baki Ilkin and Nabi Sensoy told Charge that the Turkish side will be ready to begin discussing cooperation on the presence of PKK/KADEK in Northern Iraq after the "re-integration" law (reftel) is signed by President Sezer and published in the Official Gazette. Ilkin said he believes Sezer will sign the law "within the next couple of days." Ilkin told Charge that Sensoy will head the Turkish delegation, which will be composed of MFA DDG for Intelligence Kemal Asya -- who, we understand, handles PKK/KADEK-related issues -- and representatives from the Turkish General Staff (TGS), the Jandarma, and the Turkish National Intelligence Organization (TNIO). Ilkin asserted that the MFA will work to keep the activities of the delegation participants -- including both Turkish and American names -- out of the press, although the fact of cooperation should be known.

2. (S) Sensoy sought Charge's clarification of USG ultimate intentions are regarding PKK/KADEK. "You have used the word 'elimination;' what do you mean by that?" he asked. Sensoy thanked Charge for Embassy's efforts to discourage a delegation from the Kurdish DEHAP from meeting with PKK/KADEK in Northern Iraq. He also thanked Charge for publicly denying the recent "Hurriyet" article that claimed PKK/KADEK leaders will be granted asylum in Norway. He, nevertheless, noted that the article had generated some "concern," which is likely "to linger in Turkish minds."

3. (S) Charge stressed that, as we have noted before, the new Iraq will be neither a sponsor of nor a safe haven for terrorists. The U.S. intent, Charge emphasized, is to eliminate Iraq as a safe haven for terrorists of any kind. Part of this is getting the PKK/KADEK militants to return to Turkey -- voluntarily with the impetus the "re-integration" law provides or involuntarily. With regard to the latter, Charge said, the U.S. is considering options and will be interested in sharing intelligence with the Turkish forces in Iraq. He noted that U.S. forces have a number of priority tasks in Iraq, which could also impact the planning for PKK/KADEK. Charge asked Ilkin and Sensoy to provide information on what the MFA considers as the PKK/KADEK leadership cadre, so that we can be better informed and have an opportunity to respond should these individuals seek to disperse in Iraq or depart the region.

4. (S) Both Ilkin and Sensoy emphasized that allowing PKK/KADEK militants to escape to Europe is not an option. Ilkin said that the leadership "would be even more dangerous to Turkey in Europe than they are right now in Iraq."

DEUTSCH